

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### RECOGNIZING MS. BEATRICE IVORY

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 9, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a longtime healthcare provider, Ms. Beatrice Ivory. She is the daughter of T.J. and Martha Ivory and is the mother of Kayla Beatrice Ivory, an Industrial and System Engineering major at Mississippi State University.

Ms. Beatrice graduated from Henry Weather High School in Rolling Fork, MS in 1974. After working for 13 years with mentally challenged patients at Mississippi Christian Family service, she aspired to continue her education. In 1990, she received her LPN license from Hinds Community College along with specialties in Intravenous certification (IV) and Emergency Medical Technical License (EMT). Since receiving her LPN, she has worked with Skarkey-Issaquena Community Hospital (SICH), Heritage Manor Nursing Home, Delta Regional Medical Center, and Continue Care Home Health Agency.

Ms. Beatrice is a member of the Pleasant Valley M.B. Church where she is an usher and Sunday school teacher. She is also currently serving as Treasurer of the South Delta School District Parent Teacher Organization.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in commending Ms. Beatrice Ivory for her services as a healthcare provider and public servant to the State of Mississippi.

### HONORING KAREN WASHINGTON, PRESIDENT OF THE NEW YORK CITY COMMUNITY GARDEN COA- LITION

#### HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 9, 2012

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Black History Month 2012, I rise today to recognize a community leader from the Bronx whom I deeply respect, Ms. Karen Washington.

Karen Washington was born and raised in New York City and has resided in the Bronx for more than a quarter century. She attended Hunter College, CUNY where she graduated Magna Cum Laude, with her Bachelor's in Health Sciences. She then attended New York University where she earned her Master's Degree in Occupational Biomechanics and Ergonomics. Since 1985, Ms. Washington has worked to improve the quality of life in the Bronx as a community activist.

Ms. Washington works with residents of the Bronx to turn empty lots into accessible green spaces through her work as a community gardener and as a member of the Board of Direc-

tors of the New York Botanical Garden. Not only has her work brought much needed green space to our neighborhoods but, as President of New York City Community Gardens, she has fought for the protection and preservation of existing community gardens. As a Just Food board member and trainer, Ms. Washington also leads workshops on food growing and food justice for community gardeners throughout the city. She has also worked to increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables in the Bronx that are grown in our community gardens.

Ms. Washington is the Co-Founder of Black Urban Growers, an organization of agricultural volunteers committed to building networks and support for growers in both urban and rural settings. Ms. Washington has achieved these impressive accomplishments while working professionally as a physical therapist for over 30 years.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Washington's work in creating green space in urban areas and in advocating for food equity has touched thousands of lives throughout New York City. Our communities are stronger and more vibrant due to Ms. Washington's unwavering dedication. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to a woman of excellence, who aspires to make her community stronger, Ms. Karen Washington.

### SEQUESTRATION WEAKENS OUR NATIONAL SECURITY

#### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 9, 2012

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this Nation currently faces a clear and present danger to our national security that this body has the ability to defeat: Defense Sequestration. This is an issue that we must address sooner rather than later. Senator JOHN MCCAIN recently stated, "I believe the cuts that would be required by sequestration aimed at the Department of Defense are a threat to our Nation's security. We still live in a very dangerous world and everyone agrees that this kind of sequestration cannot take place."

House and Senate Republicans are determined to prevent sequestration from occurring. Slashing the Army by 80,000 troops, cutting 20,000 Marines, and reducing 10,000 Air Force personnel is risky. The United States does not have the luxury of choosing our enemies or deciding if we will be attacked. Our military must be properly funded, equipped and prepared to protect our families from extremists who carry signs calling for "Death to America."

In conclusion, God Bless our troops and we will never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

### IN RECOGNITION OF THE ACHIEVE- MENTS OF CHRISTOPHER CAN- NING

#### HON. AARON SCHOCK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 9, 2012

Mr. SCHOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of an exceptional young person whose character and accomplishments during his short life of 15 years merit commendation. Chris Canning was an honor student, musician, athlete, humanitarian, and elite martial artist.

In addition to achieving the status of First Degree Black Belt in Taekwondo in only 4 years and playing baseball, basketball and football for his high school, Chris found time to volunteer in his community of Maroa, Illinois, delivering food and clothing to those in need and working in an animal shelter.

Chris has been honored for his service to others and excellence in martial arts by the United Nations Youth Assembly, the World Martial Arts Hall of Fame, the United States Olympic Committee, and the USA Taekwondo Martial Arts Commission, among many others. Despite all of these accolades, the qualities that Chris's family and friends most associate with him were humility and a commitment to service above self. His pursuit in each of life's endeavors, in and out of the martial arts, was to give more than he received, not to gain praise or honor, but to share achievement with others and to set aside his own desires in order to help those less fortunate. His greatest satisfaction came from being there when needed and making a difference.

He was a sincere friend and loving son, and he is missed by all who knew him. His legacy lives on through the Chris Canning Foundation and Awards Program, which has been given to 77 youths from around the world who exemplify the strength of character and excellence that Chris possessed.

It is my honor to recognize the legacy of this exceptional young man from Central Illinois today.

### HONORING JAMES "JIM" SCHRANZ

#### HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 9, 2012

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor James "Jim" Schranz for his tireless efforts to promote and expand retirement security for all Americans. Jim has played an integral role in the formation of the Employee-owned S Corporations of America (ESCA) and will soon be stepping down from his role as the founding Treasurer to fully enjoy his retirement with his wife Nancy.

After earning his MBA from the Cox School of Business at Southern Methodist University,

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